

Extracts.

LIFE AND DEATH.
We stood on the brink of a river,
And its water was like a life,
And its banks were like a death.
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NAPOLÉON I. AT MALMAISON.
In 1801 Malmaison was full of merry people. Saint Cloud and Fontainebleau had not overshadowed the little property which Napoleon, in his simpler days, had calculated might be made to yield 4,000 francs a year including the sale of the vegetables. It was the home of a happy family, blessed with lots of friends, and giving welcome to the best company left in France in the holiday hours at the end of each week. Then, in the grounds, with the week's State work done, Napoleon and Hortense would lead off the game of prisoner's base, with the renowned general and captain in their wake. The general would sit round Josephine and give judgment on the fray. An eye-witness of the Sans-Souci romps has described Napoleon throwing himself heart and soul into the fun, and rolling upon the ground in a fit of laughter before giving himself up to the enemy while Hortense, full of adoration, sat in the shade, and tried to soothe his passion. In the exchange of prisoners two enemies were insisted upon for the conqueror of Marengo but three for Madame de Beauharnais. — *The Life of Napoleon III.* By Blanchard Jerrold.

MONKEYS.
There are people who like monkeys. They are who must be the true link between us and monkeys, just as monkeys make the link between them and the lower animals. In my opinion one must be, as it were, a semi-monkey to endure the society or even the sight of monkeys. I have, as I have said, no sympathy whatever with them; my dignity will not admit of it. I feel as a staid Castilian might feel in company with a low comedian from the Palais Royal. Their grins make me uncomfortable, their half-bumpty looks make me, their hideous countenances of feature with some of my dearest friends is horrible to me. I have seen fellow-monkeys starting with loose expressions of various stages of idiotic delight, at the antics of the caged monkeys in the Zoological Gardens. It is to me a pitiful spectacle; it is enough to persuade a man of the truth of Darwinism. Mr. Gladstone, who not long ago, deplored the fact that his special duties had to make up his mind upon the doctrine of evolution, might perhaps now find time to spend an hour in front of the monkey-house in the Zoological Gardens. He would, I am sure, come away a strong believer in this fashionable doctrine. Yet monkeys have many pleasing qualities: some of the species are very gentle, and capable of considerable affection towards their keepers. There is, however, that about monkeys in this country at least, which should effectually stand in the way of their becoming pets. They have almost always, every one of them, seeds of a fatal consumption, their lives are nearly always to be measured by a few months, and their antics are none the fewer the more they are kept in cages. Their ill health depresses them, but nothing can deprive them of their love of mischief, and this contrast of buffoonery and depression is one reason why a tame monkey makes one of the most melancholy of pets. They are ghastly humorsists; they are drolls in season and out, their gaily and their gloom are ascribed to the whims of fate, and the executioner of fate, behind a criminal. A monkey's humor is of a kind that I could never enter into. It is founded on the doing of mischief. Let the man who does not believe me watch a monkey playing with puppies or kittens, and compare their innocent playfulness with the cruel tricks the monkey will put upon them. My own monkey plays away, and in a few months after he came to me, do what I would, was in the last stage of consumption. It was cold, wintry weather. He crouched near the fire, feeble and exhausted, looking at me, as sick animals will do, with reproachful eyes, as if I was responsible for his sufferings; but almost to the last he would do mischief, pulling a burning candle, or to the hearth-rug, or upsetting a cup of tea if it stood within reach of him. Notwithstanding his wickedness he was affectionate. And I was getting reconciled to him when he died. — *New Quarterly Magazine.*

THE CAT'S LOVE OF HOME.
It is in general the cat is fond of peace than of people. He likes the old home because he knows it thoroughly; because he has investigated its every nook and cranny, and studied the advantages of its every retreat; from dogs and other enemies; because he, a weak animal, feels sure that he can find food and peace. Although speculation and theory have not been wanting in the attempt to elucidate these relations. My readers will doubtless be familiar with the "protoplasm" battle in many of its varied phases; but in the present instance we have nothing whatever to do with controversy or argument, and so we will recognize the "protoplasm" as a fact. Now the living protoplasm is in turn made up of a multitude of individual particles, each of which is known as a "sponge," and hence the apparently uniform living matter is found to be composed of an aggregation of semi-independent particles. The entire organism known as a sponge, therefore, in virtue of this constitution of its living portion, is of a compound nature. The little particles, which are in fact, so many minute individual beings, when massed together, constitute an organic colony; and upon this living colony develops the manufacture of the albumen or horny structure we know as the sponge. If we obtain a sponge fresh from the chemist's shop, and shake it over a sheet of paper, we may notice that there are the minutest particles of the sponge, which the uninitiated observer would doubtless regard as mere grains of ordinary sand. And we all know the trouble which the coarser sponges give us, when we try to get rid of the "grit," or hard particles, which are commonly imbedded among the horny fibers of the sponge. But if we examine these little particles by aid of the microscope, we shall find them to present certain definite shapes, and to exhibit evidence of

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CHARACTER IS CAPITAL.
What you can effect depends on what you are. You put your self into all you do. If that self be small and lean, and mean, your entire life work is paltry, your words have no force, your influence has no weight. If that self be true and high, pure and kind, vigorous and forceful, your strokes are blows, your notes strokes, your work massive, your influence cogent; you can do what you will. Whatever your position, you are a power, you are felt as a king, by spirit, you are as one having authority. The many think of character chiefly in its relation to the life beyond the grave. I certainly would not have less thought of it in reference to this unknown future, on the margin of which some of us undoubtedly are at this moment standing. But I do wish that more consideration were bestowed upon its earthly life. I would have young men, as they start in life, to consider that character, such as it is, will fill their return to any other capital, unaffected by paucity and failures, fruitful when all other investments lie dormant, having as certain promise in the present life as that which is to come. — *A. P. Peabody.*

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SPONGES.
Very briefly, then, let us try to peer into the inner depths and mysteries of sponge-existence. We already know that our domestic sponges formed part of a living being; that, in short, the living part of the sponge is manufactured or secreted the horny, fibrous material which forms so important an object of commercial pursuit. And the living portion of the sponge consisted of a mass of many little jelly-like cells, which coated the horny material outwardly, and also lined the canals that permeate every part of its internal structure. This whitish living jelly we know as "sarcoderm," or "protoplasm," but concerning its exact nature, or its relations with the mysterious principle we term "life," we know very little. Although speculation and theory have not been wanting in the attempt to elucidate these relations. My readers will doubtless be familiar with the "protoplasm" battle in many of its varied phases; but in the present instance we have nothing whatever to do with controversy or argument, and so we will recognize the "protoplasm" as a fact. Now the living protoplasm is in turn made up of a multitude of individual particles, each of which is known as a "sponge," and hence the apparently uniform living matter is found to be composed of an aggregation of semi-independent particles. The entire organism known as a sponge, therefore, in virtue of this constitution of its living portion, is of a compound nature. The little particles, which are in fact, so many minute individual beings, when massed together, constitute an organic colony; and upon this living colony develops the manufacture of the albumen or horny structure we know as the sponge. If we obtain a sponge fresh from the chemist's shop, and shake it over a sheet of paper, we may notice that there are the minutest particles of the sponge, which the uninitiated observer would doubtless regard as mere grains of ordinary sand. And we all know the trouble which the coarser sponges give us, when we try to get rid of the "grit," or hard particles, which are commonly imbedded among the horny fibers of the sponge. But if we examine these little particles by aid of the microscope, we shall find them to present certain definite shapes, and to exhibit evidence of

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The undersigned have been appointed Agents for the above Company at Hongkong, Canton, Fookow, Shanghai, and elsewhere, and are prepared to grant Insurance at current rates.
HOLLIDAY WISE & Co.
1188 Hongkong, 10th October, 1868.

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HONGKONG MARKETS.
As Reported by Chinese on the 17th August, 1874.
COTTON GOODS.
COTTON YARN, No. 10 & 20, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 1 & 2, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 3 & 4, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 5 & 6, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 7 & 8, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 9 & 10, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 11 & 12, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 13 & 14, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 15 & 16, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 17 & 18, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 19 & 20, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 21 & 22, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 23 & 24, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 25 & 26, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 27 & 28, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 29 & 30, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 31 & 32, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 33 & 34, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 35 & 36, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 37 & 38, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 39 & 40, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 41 & 42, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 43 & 44, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 45 & 46, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 47 & 48, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 49 & 50, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 51 & 52, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 53 & 54, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 55 & 56, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 57 & 58, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 59 & 60, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 61 & 62, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 63 & 64, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 65 & 66, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 67 & 68, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 69 & 70, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 71 & 72, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 73 & 74, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 75 & 76, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 77 & 78, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 79 & 80, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 81 & 82, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 83 & 84, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 85 & 86, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 87 & 88, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 89 & 90, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 91 & 92, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 93 & 94, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 95 & 96, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 97 & 98, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 99 & 100, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 101 & 102, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 103 & 104, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 105 & 106, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 107 & 108, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 109 & 110, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 111 & 112, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 113 & 114, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 115 & 116, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 117 & 118, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 119 & 120, per piece 12.00 & 11.00
COTTON FABRICS, 12